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# White House Names Dean As Author Of Watergate

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House Wednesday cast John W. Dean III as the principal author of the political and constitutional crisis of the Watergate scandal. But Dean testified there was no way he could have engineered the cover-up without help from high in the administration.

In its first counter-attack to accusations by Dean, the White House submitted a statement to the Senate Watergate committee that a senator characterized as "a substitute for cross-examination of Mr. Dean by the President of the United States."

The statement was put to Dean by Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, a Democrat from Hawaii, and the discharged White House lawyer responded point by point. Part of it was in the form of accusations; part questions.

"Dean's activity in the cover-up also made him, perhaps unwittingly, the principal author of the political and constitutional crisis Watergate now epitomizes," said the statement, prepared by special counsel J. Fred Buzhardt.

"It would have been embarrassing to the President if the true facts had become known shortly after June 17 (the day of the Watergate break-in) but it is the kind of embarrassment that an immensely popular President could easily have weathered.

"The political problem has been magnified a thousandfold because the truth is coming to light too belatedly, because of insinuations that the White House was a party to the cover-up, and above all, because the White House was led to say things about Watergate that since have been found to have been untrue. These added consequences were John Dean's doing."